



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**POSEY COUNTY FELON SENTENCED FOR  
POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MATTHEW R. CURTIS, 25, formerly of Mt. Vernon, Indiana, was sentenced to 64 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Richard L. Young following his guilty plea to felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition and possession of a sawed-off shotgun. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives, the Mt. Vernon Police Department, and the Posey County Sheriff's Department.

CURTIS pleaded guilty to the charges in court on April 16, 2004. According to facts presented in court during the guilty plea, on September 19, 2002, Curtis was in a vehicle

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stopped by a Mt. Vernon police officer after the vehicle left the scene of a shooting incident that took place in New Haven, Illinois. After the vehicle stop, officers found that CURTIS had a sawed-off shotgun in his possession inside the vehicle and a shot gun shell in his pocket. CURTIS had previously been convicted of two counts of class D felony criminal recklessness on April 23, 1997, in Posey County and sentenced to a term of 1½ years imprisonment.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Young also imposed 3 years supervised release following CURTIS' release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, CURTIS must submit to drug testing.

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